



OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

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Jurisdiction: Northern California, Northern Nevada, Utah, Hawaii, and the Mid-Pacific Islands

March 11, 2025

MTC Chair Sue Noack
Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

*RE: Item 3b. Major Project Advancement Policy: Stage Gate Evaluation and
Recommendations for Transbay Joint Powers Authority - the Portal Project*

Dear Chair Noack and Commissioners,

Thank you to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for considering the elevation of The Portal to Level 1 of the Major Project Advancement Policy (MAP), the Bay Area's roadmap to fund important transit projects having positive long-term impact.

Moving The Portal to Level 1 will allow it to compete for critical remaining funding – such as the State's Cap and Trade program - as the TJPA works to close its funding gap of \$2.5 billion, to sign a Full Funding Grant Agreement with the Federal Transit Administration, leveraging the \$3.38 billion committed to this project.

The project will create 60,000 over the life of the project once and connect our region, leading to additional economic development. The TJPA was instrumental in putting our union members back to work during the Great Recession through the construction of the multimodal Salesforce Transit Center and we look forward to continuing our partnership to deliver The Portal.

We appreciate MTC staff and consultants' rigorous stage gate process and evaluation of The Portal as part of the process to elevate the project into Level 1 of the Major Project Advancement policy over the last six months.

As a project having multi-jurisdictional and economic impact, I strongly recommend that MTC approve the staff recommendation to elevate The Portal to Level 1 of the MAP.

Sincerely,

Charles Lavery

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